Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A coated stent comprising a stent and a coating composition comprising a biologically active component and a ~~biodegradable~~ carrier component, the ~~biodegradable~~ carrier component having a melting point of about 50°C or less and wherein the coating composition comprises a carrier component by weight in the range from 50-99.9%.

2. (Original) The coated stent of claim 1, further comprising a catheter, wherein the catheter and the coated stent can be coupled to form a treatment assembly.

3. (Original) The coated stent of claim 1, wherein the carrier has a melting point of from about 35 °C to about 45 °C.

4. (Currently amended) The coated stent of claim 1 wherein the ~~biologicaly~~ biologically active component has a melting point of about 50 °C or less.

5. (Currently amended) A coated stent comprising a stent and a coating composition that includes a biologically active component and a carrier, wherein the carrier has a viscosity of from about 0.1 to about 15000 cP less and wherein the coating composition comprises a carrier component by weight in the range from 50-99.9%.

6. (Original) A coated stent comprising a stent and a coating composition that includes a biologically active component and a carrier, wherein the coating

composition is in a solid state outside of a human body and melts to form a liquid inside of a human body.

7. (Original) The coated stent of claim 1 in which the coating composition is hydrophobic.

8. (Original) The coated stent of claim 1 in which the carrier is hydrophobic.

9. (Original) The coated stent of claim 1 in which the ~~biodegradable~~ carrier is ~~biocompatible~~ biodegradable.

10. (Original) The coated stent of claim 1 in which the carrier comprises a polymer.

11. (Original) The coated stent of claim 1 in which the carrier comprises a polymer having a molecular weight of 50,000 or less.

12. (Original) The coated stent of claim 1 in which the carrier comprises a non-polymer.

13. (Original) The coated stent of claim 1 in which the component comprises vitamin E or a derivative thereof.

14. (Currently amended) The coated stent of claim 1, wherein the carrier comprises vitamin E acetate.

15. (Currently amended) The coated stent of claim 1, wherein the carrier comprises vitamin E succinate.

16. (Currently amended) The coated stent of claim 1, wherein the carrier is selected from the group consisting of oleic acid, peanut oil, and cottonseed oil.

17. (Currently amended) The coated stent of claim 1, wherein the carrier is a selected from the group consisting of polyhydroxy acids, polyanhydrides, polyphosphazenes, biodegradable polyamides, polyalkylene oxalates, polyorthoesters, polyphosphoesters, polyorthocarbonates, and blends or copolymers thereof.

18. (Original) The coated stent of claim 1 in which the biologically active component is capable of inhibiting restenosis.

19. (Original) The coated stent of claim 1 in which the biologically active component is selected from the group consisting of paclitaxel, actinomycin D, rapamycin, cerivastatin, fluvastatin, simvastatin, lovastatin, atorvastatin, and pravastatin.

20. (Currently amended) The coated stent of claim 1, wherein the stent ~~has~~ comprises struts and the struts comprise capillaries, ~~groves~~ grooves, and channels engraved in the struts.

21. (Original) The coated stent of claim 1, wherein the stent comprises a strut and the strut comprises a surface area enhancing feature.

22. (Currently amended) The coated stent of claim 21, wherein the surface enhancing feature is selected from the group consiting of grooves, capillaries, or channels.

23. (Original) The coated stent of claim 22 wherein the surface enhancing feature contains at least some of the coating composition.

24. (Currently amended) A method of coating a stent comprising:
providing a stent,
providing a coating composition comprising a biologically active component and a biodegradable carrier having a melting point of about 50 °C or less, and

wherein the coating composition comprises a carrier component by weight in the range from 50-99.9%; and
applying the coating composition to the stent.

25. (Original) The method of claim 24, further comprising the step of expanding the stent to an increased diameter before applying the coating composition to the stent.

26. (Currently amended) The method of claim 24, wherein applying the coating composition comprises spraying or painting the coating composition onto the stent, or immersing the stent in the coating composition.

27. (Currently amended) A method of coating a stent comprising:
providing a stent,
providing a coating composition comprising a biologically active component and a biodegradable carrier having a viscosity of from about 0.1 to about 15000 cP, and, wherein the coating composition comprises a carrier component by weight in the range from 50-99.9%; and
applying the coating to the stent.

28. (Currently amended) A method of treating restenosis comprising:
deploying a coated stent into a body lumen of a patient, the coated stent comprising a stent and a coating composition comprising a biodegradable carrier having a melting point of about 50°C or less and wherein the coating composition comprises from a carrier component by weight in the range from 50-99.9%;and a biologically active component.

29. (Currently amended) A method of treating restenosis comprising:
deploying a coated stent into a body lumen of a patient, the coated stenting comprising a stent and a coating composition comprising a biodegradable carrier having a viscosity of from about 01. to about 15,000 cP and wherein the coating

composition comprises a carrier component by weight in the range from 50-99.9%; and a biologically active component.

30. (Currently amended) A ~~tmethod~~ method of treating restenosis comprising:
providing a coated stent comprising a stent, a biologically active component and a coating composition comprising a biodegradable solid carrier and wherein the coating composition comprises a carrier component by weight in the range from 50-99.9%;, and
deploying the coated stent into a body lumen of a patient, the coating composition changing from a solid to a liquid inside the patient.

31. (Original) A method of treating restenosis comprising:
coupling a stent to a catheter,
spraying the catheter and the stent with a coating composition comprising a biologically active component and a biodegradable carrier having a melting point of about 50°C or less, and
deploying the coated stent into a body lumen of a patient.

32. (New) A coated stent comprising:
a) a stent and
b) a coating composition comprising multiple layers applied to the stent as a solution, wherein the multiple layers comprise
1) a first primer layer
2) a layer comprising a blend of an HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor and a polymeric or nonpolymeric carrier having a melting point of about 50°C or less; and
3) a layer comprising a blend of a bioactive compound and a polymeric or nonpolymeric carrier having a melting point of about 50°C or less.

33. (New) A coated stent comprising:
a) a stent and

b) a coating composition comprising multiple layers applied to the stent as a solution, wherein the multiple layers comprise

1) a first primer layer

2) a layer comprising a blend of a bioactive compound and a polymeric or nonpolymeric carrier having a melting point of about 50°C or less; and

3) a layer comprising a blend of a bioactive compound and a polymeric or nonpolymeric carrier having a melting point of about 50°C or less.